Bolar Roses LLC was formed in February 2012 when Rafiq Bolar and Dr. Suni Bolar’s journey in the rose world culminated in their breeding program. Rafiq and Suni Bolar are Consulting Rosarians with the American Rose Society. They started out as rose exhibitors competing at local, district and national rose shows winning many awards including a National Queen (best rose in a rose show) in 2013. After retiring from exhibiting roses, they are now completely focussed on their breeding program. They breed disease resistant, insect resistant, fragrant and cold hardy roses.

Bolar Roses LLC is located in Hillsborough, NJ, USA on 4½ acres of land where seedlings are trialed for release into commerce. Although Hillsborough falls under USDA Zone 6b, the property is in a wind zone and has a microclimate of Zone 5. So most of the seedlings hybridized are well suited for extremely cold climates.

The common rose diseases that are prevalent in New Jersey are black spot, mildew and cercospora. The major pests in New Jersey are midge, thrips, aphids, mites and Japanese beetles. The seedlings hybridized have good resistance to these diseases and pests.

Most of the crosses are done in May and June outdoors in the garden. The hips are collected in September and the seeds are planted after stratification in December. The seedlings are evaluated in the greenhouse for multiple bloom cycles. The shortlisted seedlings are then planted outdoors in trial beds in June and further evaluated for 3 to 4 years before they are given to rose companies for introduction into commerce.

Suni Bolar’s hybridized roses are being sold by ‘Amore Roses’ in New Zealand. Below are pictures of some of her roses that are in commerce in New Zealand: